

Attorney Docket No. 01582/LH

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): Yasuteru TAKAHAMA et al
Serial No. : 09/955,857
Filed : September 19, 2001
For : INVERTED MICROSCOPE
Art Unit : 2872
Examiner :

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

S I R :

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on the date noted below.

Attorney: Leonard Holtz

Dated: October 18, 2002

In the event that this Paper is late filed, and the necessary petition for extension of time is not filed concurrently herewith, please consider this as a Petition for the requisite extension of time, and to the extent not tendered by check attached hereto, authorization to charge the extension fee, or any other fee required in connection with this Paper, to Account No. 06-1378.

Submitted herewith are the following:

1. Copy of U.S. Patent Application Publication No.
US 2002/0131165 A1, published September 19, 2002, which
is the USPTO Publication of related U.S. Patent
Application Serial No. 10/091,914, filed March 6, 2002;
2. Copy of related U.S. Patent Application Serial
No. 10/102,098, filed March 19, 2002, including a copy
of the official Filing Receipt in said related
application;
3. Copies of prior art cited by applicant in the above-
identified related U.S. applications, except for the
prior art documents which were filed in an Information

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Disclosure Statement in the present application on
December 17, 2001); and

4. Forms PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B.

CONCISE EXPLANATION OF RELEVANCE OF RELATED APPLICATIONS


U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/091,914 (Publication No. US 2002/031165 A1), filed March 6, 2002, discloses an inverted microscope that shares basic functional units, including an imaging lens for forming an intermediate image of an observation sample and a focusing means for bringing the observation sample into focus. Additional units are combined with the basic functional units on the basis of the purpose for which the inverted microscope is used. With this structure, it is possible to reduce the manufacturing costs required for providing different types of microscopes and to flexibly cope with a variety of purposes.

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/102,098, filed March 19, 2002, discloses an inverted microscope comprising an objective lens disposed under a sample, and a tube lens which is disposed in a light path of an observation light emitted from the objective lens and which forms the observation light into an image. An incident light illumination optical device is disposed between the objective lens and the tube lens, and introduces

incident light illumination into the light path of the observation light. An input/output port is disposed between the incident light illumination optical device and the tube lens, and splits a light flux from the light path of the observation light or introduces the light flux into the light path of the observation light.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner return initialed copies of the attached Forms PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B to confirm that the documents listed therein have all been considered and made of record.

Respectfully submitted,



Leonard Holtz
Reg. No. 22,974

Dated: October 18, 2002

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